

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 766

By Borchert

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate the citizens of Benton County upon the 175th anniversary of their historic community.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause in its deliberations to join with the cities and counties that comprise this great State in celebrating joyous and historic occasions; and

WHEREAS, the citizens of beautiful Benton County are most assuredly deserving of special recognition, as they celebrate this year the 175th anniversary of the county's formation; and

WHEREAS, originally part of the hunting range claimed by the Chickasaw Nation, the Tennessee General Assembly created Benton County on December 19, 1835, from portions of Humphreys County and Henry County; county officials first organized in February 1836, in a small log cabin located in an area that is now part of West Camden; and

WHEREAS, initially, the county was named in honor of Thomas Hart Benton, a leading Jacksonian Democrat, but in 1852, the state legislature approved an act retaining the original name, but instead honoring David Benton, an old and respected citizen who was a member of the Third Regiment in the Tennessee Militia during the Creek war; and

WHEREAS, the county seat of Camden was established in 1836 on the high ground above Cane Creek, a tributary of the Tennessee River, and was named for Camden, South Carolina, the site of the historic Battle of Camden during the Revolutionary War; and

WHEREAS, along with Camden, Benton County is made up of several historic and thriving communities, including Big Sandy, Eva, Faxon, and Holladay; and

WHEREAS, located partially in the western valley of the Tennessee River and partially in the West Tennessee plateau, Benton County is famously known for its duck hunting and fishing industry; the eastern border of the county is the Tennessee River and includes part of Kentucky Lake and the Tennessee National Wildlife Refuge, a 51,359 acre national refuge teeming with wildlife and waterfowl; and

WHEREAS, also featuring rolling hills, broad valleys, and gorgeous hardwood forests, Benton County boasts two beautiful and scenic state parks, Nathan Bedford Forrest State Park and Natchez Trace State Park; and

WHEREAS, Benton County's economy has been diverse throughout its illustrious history, with agriculture, fishing, industry, commerce, and tourism all making important contributions to its overall vitality; and

WHEREAS, Benton County, which covers 436 square miles, is the home of over 16,000 citizens of this great State; and

WHEREAS, the State of Tennessee takes great pride in the history and contributions of Benton County and is grateful for the positive impact the county has on the State's beauty and heritage and the special place it has won in the hearts of its citizens; and

WHEREAS, Benton County is one of the great counties in Tennessee, and it is most appropriate that the members of this legislative body should honor this fine community and its citizenry as they commemorate this significant milestone in their historic existence; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor and congratulate the citizens of Benton County upon the celebration of the county's 175th anniversary and extend to them our best wishes for continued success, growth, and prosperity in their outstanding community, which is a true Tennessee treasure.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.